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**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

**TO: Commissioner of Patents**

**FAX NO. 1-703-872-9306**

**FROM: Frank J. Benasutti, Esquire**

**DATE: July 22, 2004**

**Total number of pages including this sheet: 3**

**In re application of Peter T. Datsuk, Jr. for**

**Invention: Locking drag cover**

**Application No. 10/623,024**

**Filed: 07/19/2003**

**Attorney Docket No. 6986-20060**

**Conf. No. 4473**

**Attached is an amendment to the subject application.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Peter T. Datsuk, Jr.**

by 

**Frank J. Benasutti, Esquire**

**Reg. No. 24,155**

**Attorney for Applicant**

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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Application No. 10/623,024  
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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

## AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action mailed 05/04/2004, please amend the above identified application as follows:

## In the claims:

Please amend Claims 1 as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended) In a fishing reel having a spool and a drag mechanism having a drag washer therein, the improvement comprising:

a drag cover means comprising a drag cover in threaded engagement with the spool to cover said drag mechanism; and

locking means engaging said drag cover means and said drag washer to lock said drag washer in position within said reel.

Claim 2. (canceled and not entered)

Claim 3. (currently amended) 3 2. The reel of Claim 2 1 wherein the drag washer has at least one notch and the drag cover means has a spring-biased pin means therein for engagement with said notch.

Claim 4. (currently amended) 4 3. The reel of Claim 3 2 further comprising a retraction means

engaging said spring-biased pin means to provide a means for retracting said pin means from said notch.

Claim 5. (currently amended) 5 4. The reel of Claim 4 3 wherein the retraction means comprises a clip; and said drag cover has two surfaces, one for engaging said clip when said pin means engages said notch and one for engaging said clip when said pin means is retracted from said notch.